

May 16, 1996

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. xvii No. 8

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208rd S. 223 St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5..go to first stop light west of Pacific HWY. S...turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday, May 16th 1996..7:30 till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:30)
WHY	Regular meeting..short business meeting..auction..door prizes..members trade & sell tables. The program this month will be a review of our annual spring Sale, Swap & Show complete with a preliminary treasurer's report and all sorts of tales of the hunt/show and the showing of acquired treasures.

SHOW CHAIRMAN COMMENTS:

Show chairman Bill Kimber provided the following thoughts and information about P.S.P.C.S., Inc.'s April 27 Sale, Swap & Show. Ed.


First, let me say that every member of your show committee did a marvelous job helping to put this years show on. This first year in a new location ment many more new problems and unknowns to overcome and Gene Raddatz, Gary Sivertsen, Ray Kirlin, Bill Adams, Merle Carey (and Pam), Ed Frey, Dave Studebaker, Mike Immel, Stuart Curry, Darrel Womack, Don Tempel, Louie Read, Dick Boress, Bob Kelly and Shirley Sparrow got the job done! Next year we hope to be able to smooth out the rough spots discovered this first year.

We had 276 total tables with about 160 different sellers and over two hundred assistants to go with 1,415 paid admissions; 202 of which were \$15.00 early-in buyers. For the first year at the Puyallup Fair Grounds Pavilion after 15 years at Kent this is a good turnout. We spent about \$3,000 on advertizing and got some good mentions in local papers and on radio and TV. (Little Nickle left our ad out the week of the show, (they paid us back,) which did not help)! Most people I talked with really liked the wider isles, being in one room, the food service, the Gold Lot parking and the displays by P.S.P.C.S. members. We had a bit of an off-loading back-up Friday evening but we will work that out.

As always, there were many more usable cameras for sale then older colectables. However, several new sellers brought some very interesting older items to gladden we collectors hearts..and lighten our pocket books. I did not see very much in the way of colored cameras, sub-miniature or Art-deco items for sale. Very few images or old camera literature was available. It was nice to see past sellers like Bill and Mary Carroll and Mike Kessler from California along with the "Montana people" the "Canada people" along with our other long time sellers from out of the area.

All-in-all I thought the show went well and was a good one. We will work to make it better next year. Please feel free (as I know you do!) to send me your thoughts, gut feelings and suggestions. Thanks for coming, selling and buying!

Hope you can find the time and interest to join us again next year!
Who knows, next year that "treasure" you have been longing for for years may be on sale at a price you can afford to pay!



BACKSIDE INFORMATION

MORE SHOWS COMING:

It seems that more and more people are planning more and more Camera Swap meets. We may get to the point where every camera in the Northwest has been through at least one swap meet. Here is a list of the meets I know about so far:

June 1 in Seattle..June 2 in Portland for info. call Chuck (The Peddler) Richlen 1-800-746-2299 or write 173 141st PL. NE Bellevue, Wa 98007

June 29 (Sat.) Gresham Camera Swap Meet. Call 1-(503) 661-7506. Presented by Columbia Gorge Camera Club.

October 5th (Sat.) Eugene, Oregon. Contact Mike Hanemann 1-(503) 654-7424 or Dwight Bash 1-(503) 650-8333 or write D.M. Bash..Eugene Show..13231 Clairmont Way Oregon City, Or. 97045.

November 16th (Sat.) 8th annual Portland, Or. Fall Camera Swap Meet and Show. Call 1-(503) 241-1112 or 1-800-835-3314. Sponsored by Pro Photo Supply..1112 N.W. 19th Ave..Portland, Or. 97209.

Good Luck. The June 29th and October 5th Shows are new to me. The Nov. 16th show is the large Portland Show that most sellers try to take part in.

P.S.P.C.S., Inc. regular April 17 meeting came to order at 7:33. 48 members and 4 guests present. Treasurer reported money in the bank.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Shirley reported 20 members dropped for non-payment of 1996 dues.

Mike Immel is working on picnic date and place. Also, Mike is continuing to pursue a joint fall interclub Swap Meet with the Boeing Camera Club at their site. This would take the place of our fall inter-club meet at Kent.

Show Committee reported Show info. is on the Internet. Only ten days left to the Show and all is progressing well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Silver Pixel press release and list from Panorama Camera were passed around.

SHOW & TELL:

Nine members brought some most interesting treasures to show and tell about.

DOOR PRIZES:

Don Friend won a Kodak cup with film and Dave Studebaker won a book.

AUCTION: Nine items were auctioned, 4 did not sell, \$110.00 was brought in.

PROGRAM: Gary and Darrel finished their entertaining video report on their trip to Japan. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. for more Swaping and Selling.



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to: Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (206) 564-4046.

Dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow P.O. Box 70, Ronald, WA 98940 (509) 649-2477. P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our spring show.

PRESIDENT: DAVE STUDEBAKER, (206) 582-4878

The following information is from The Photographic Historical Society Newsletter of New York. Thank you! Ed.

What Do You Want To Do With The Things You Collect?...Like, maybe, Old Cameras?

Recently The *Wall Street Journal* carried a story on things people collect and their plans for those collections in the future. Among other interesting findings was that even for the most obscure "collectibles", few enthusiasts are alone in their interest. This, in turn, generates dozens of special interest newsletters and swap meets. With all this interest, it stands to reason that should one wish to dispose of a collection there is someone anxious to take, perchance to buy, and proudly display it. Well, maybe, but then again, maybe not, especially not in the way you have in mind.

A hobby magazine survey found that readers felt their collections would someday: (1) become a part of their retirement portfolio, (2) be passed on to appreciative heirs, or preferably (3) become a permanent memorial to them, housed in something akin in durability to the pyramids. The only problem with the last idea is that many are certain someone else can hardly wait to haul the rocks to build it.

The number one and two places collectors saw housing their wonders would be a grateful museum or library. Which museum or library? Preferably one with their name on it and maintained in perpetuity. Nice idea, but a museum management publication considered the prospect of a "permanent" specialized museum for all but the more traditional items, such as art works, an unlikely prospect. Unless, and often, not even if, you donate funds to house and sustain a collection, will it likely be displayed long into the future. The key to museum survival is the *interest*, and especially the *longevity of interest* your subject commands. If your subject interests very few, or is very topical, like items with "OJ" on them, don't expect many museums to provide a permanent display, let alone a free standing building, regardless of your generosity. A building is one thing, staffing and maintenance is another. Today, for example, museums of science and technology have a constant problem with donations of expensive high-tech equipment from businesses and individuals who just know crowds are waiting to see it. Of course, speeded-up tax writeoffs and rapidly changing technology have made many donations of "classic" (i.e. useless and not unusual) electronic equipment a lot easier. However, many of the items have become a quagmire for museums. If accepted at all, most are quietly sold as junk. For libraries, the most dreaded donation is the legal library a long retired lawyer or judge. Virtually useless, heavy, space filling and uninteresting everyone, even if accepted as a goodwill gesture virtually all are discarded immediately.

So what can a collector (or perhaps the relatives) to do when the passion is gone. The alternatives seem to be to sell or give away. And the least desired alternative for the true collector is to sell the collection at auction. Easier for relatives, auctions can be especially hard if the owner is still alive. Few passionate collectors want to see their items sold and many are especially dismayed by the prospect that a prized collection will be dismantled piece by piece... unless the price is right. Amarillo, Texas, auctioneer, C.L. Bentley, who specializes in nationwide estate and collectables auctions, said, "They seldom want to watch, but it is amazing how their attitude can change, even for a cherished item, when the bidding gets hot". He also notes that prices on whole collections are seldom as good as those sold by the piece, "Unless there is some distinct advantage to having a complete collection of something rare, and there are buyers who can afford the price, you are almost always better off selling it by the piece." He also warns about feeling badly if the price obtained on one item seems low. "You have to look at the total, not the pieces, although you can always set a minimum price on anything."

Just suppose, you have the means and do design the perfect permanent home for your lens hood or film wrapper collection. You build your memorial museum. You donate the money to maintain and staff it. Then nobody comes to see it. As the curator of one such speciality museum advised, "Best do it while you are alive so you can enjoy throwing a lot of parties in the place--with free refreshments."

Argus is Alive, Well, Living in Chicago and Having a 60th Birthday..

Today's Argus primarily sells point and shoot models made overseas. More important to Argofiles is that 1996 will be celebrated as the 60th Anniversary of the original company. The main activity will be the publication of a commemorative book of memories that Argus owners have about using their cameras.

The Following is from The Photographic Historical Society Newsletter of New York .
It is used here with much thanks! Ed.

The Biggest Camera Store(s) in the USA...

Camera stores are not what many of us remember them being in "the good ole days" but they still exist, most frequently in malls or as departments in chain stores. The mom and pop operations that were once the heart, if not always the volume, of the business, are few in number. This is emphasized by a list of the seven largest US retailers of photographic merchandise in **HFD**, a retail trade magazine. **No. 1: Wal-Mart, No. 2: Service Merchandise** followed at length by **Montgomery Ward's Lechmere, Sam's Club, 47th Street Photo, Ritz Camera and Willoughby's.**

Most notably lacking from this line-up is **K-Mart** which once was Kodak's largest customer and the nemesis of the local camera store. A surprise is **Service Merchandise**. They consider themselves primarily a jewelry store- and are the largest remaining "catalogue showrooms".

All the leaders lack a quality most of the old New York City stores had- spirited haggling over price, especially in the little stores. This often ended with my favorite definition of a "bargain": When two people are thoroughly convinced that they have cheated each other... and proud of it.

Some of these old store stores still exist, many in name only, but most are simply less interesting, with less of the air of adventure than in the past. If you want to feel really good again, visit Dick Casey's huge store in Las Vegas. It comes close to those wonderful places where you could find almost anything you wanted, old or new. If you couldn't, just ask and the owner would point to a distant table or reach under a counter or disappear into the back and come back with it. Dick can do that.

Incidentally Dick and his new partners, Wayne and Geri Kodey announced the Grand Reopening of Casey's Cameras Liberace Plaza, Suite 21, 1775 E. Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV 89119. (702) 736-0890

The following is from Arizona Photographic Collectors. Much thanks! Ed.



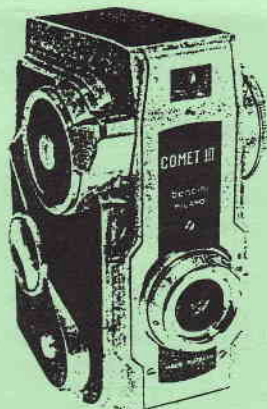
What camera developed in 1953 using 3 cm roll film was styled vertically like a movie camera?



What 8mm movie camera was made in a horizontal design similar to a 35mm SLR?

Answer:

The Bencini Comet 3 or III. The Model 3 had fixed focus and The Model III had helical focus.

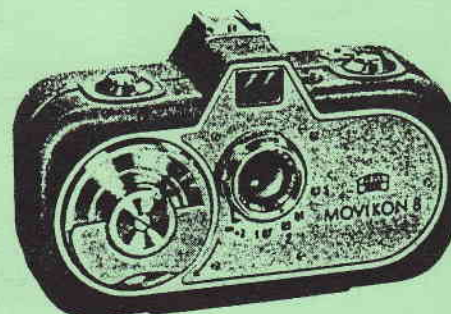


Bencini Comet III

Comet 3, III - c1953. Unusual 3x4cm rollfilm camera

Answer:

The Zeiss Movikon 8, 8B and Movinette 8B had this unique horizontal body design. These cameras were made in the 1950s.



Movikon 8 - c1952. 8mm movie camera